



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

17 October 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

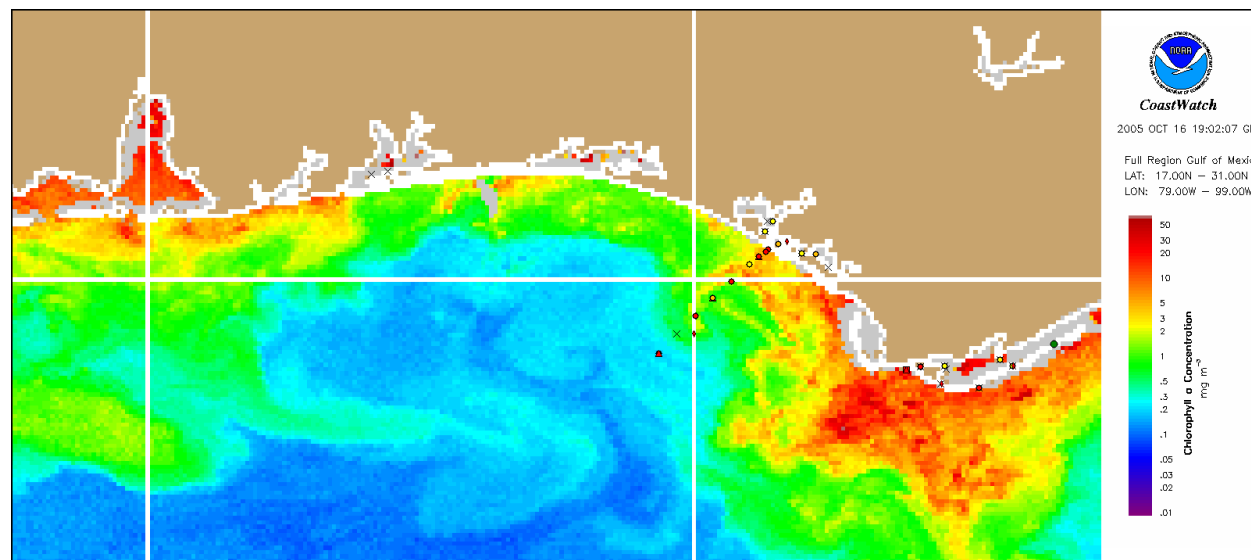
Last bulletin: October 17, 2005

Conditions: Harmful algal blooms have been identified in Florida from Pinellas to Collier County, Dixie to Levy County, and in patches along Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. Very low impacts expected from Pinellas to Collier County and from Dixie to Levy Counties through Thursday. Patchy moderate impacts possible from Franklin to Okaloosa County, FL, and in Baldwin County, AL. Patchy low impacts possible in Wakulla, Santa Rosa, Escambia Counties in FL, and Mobile County, AL. Dead fish have been reported over the last few days in Collier, Okaloosa, and Taylor counties. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as red tide.

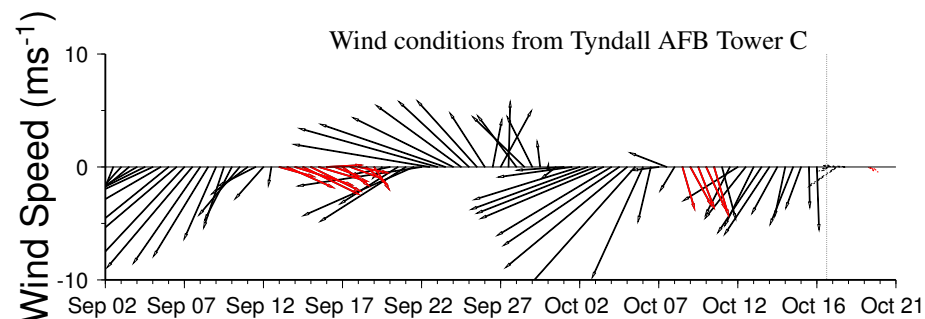
Analysis: The bloom persists in patches along the Alabama coast and Florida Panhandle. Samples indicate an increase in *K. brevis* concentration alongshore Bay County, with medium to high cell count reported in Panama City and St. Andrews Bay (FWRI, Oct. 13). Medium cell counts also reported at Destin Pass in Okaloosa County, and East Pass in Franklin County. High cell counts reported by the Alabama Department of Public Health (Oct. 14) in Gulf Shores, AL. Satellite imagery on Oct. 16 indicated a band of elevated chlorophyll levels from Bay to Wakulla County with patches of higher chlorophyll at 29°31'N 84°47'W ($>40\mu\text{g/L}$), 29°23'N 85°27'W ($>60\mu\text{g/L}$), and 29°51'N 85°26'W ($>20\mu\text{g/L}$). West of Gulf County, patches of high chlorophyll were detected at St. Andrews Bay (29°57'N 85°47'W), Fort Walton Beach (30°18'N 86°39'W, Santa Rosa Island (30°12'N 87°20'W), Gulf Shores, AL (30°7'N 87°51'W), and Dauphin Island, AL (30°7'N 88°4'W). Continued sampling is recommended along the coast and off-shore Cape San Blas. Northeasterly to easterly winds may cause slight westerly movement, and cause patchy coastal impacts tomorrow through Thursday. Intensification is possible. -Stolz and Fisher

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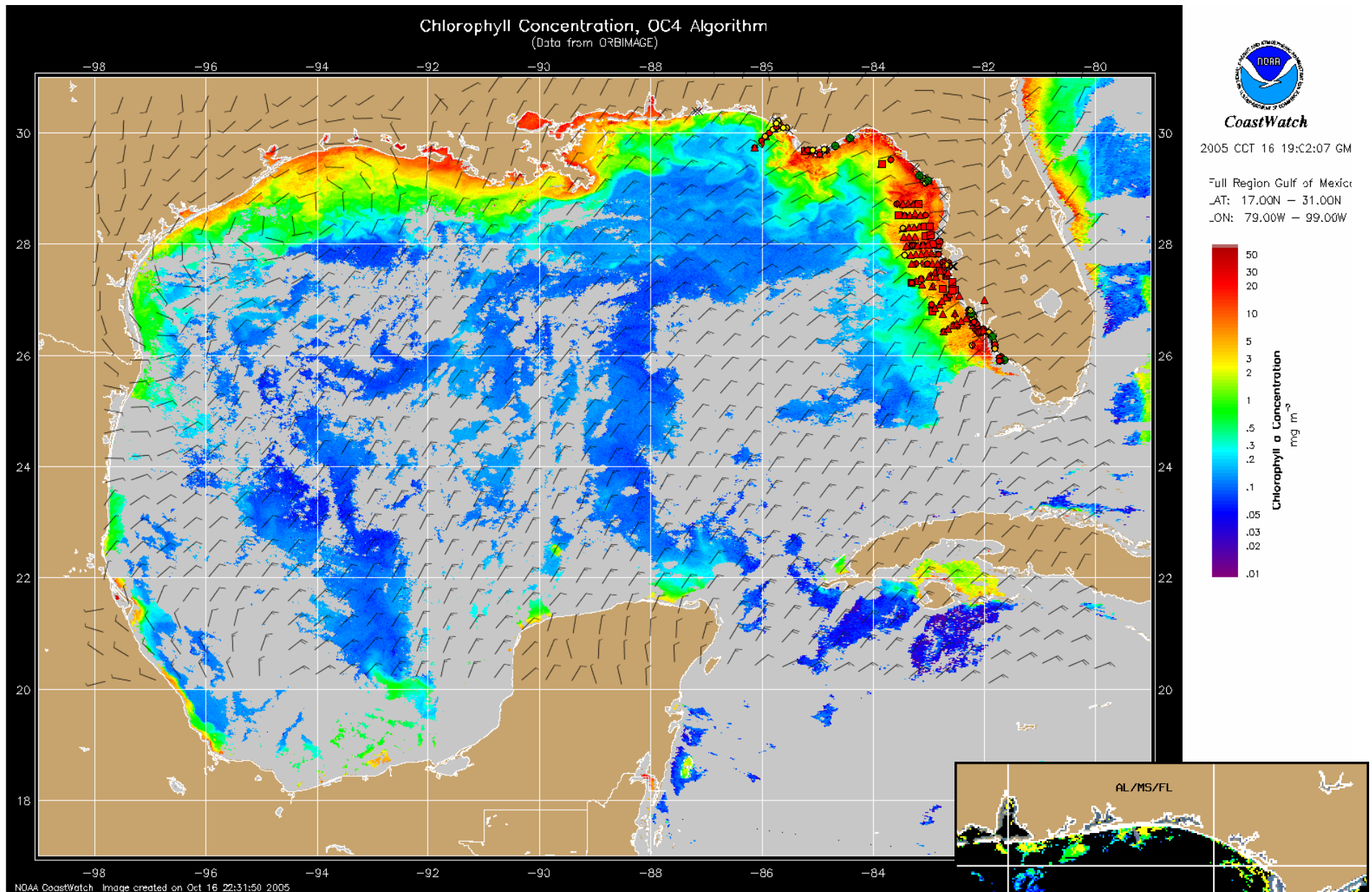


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Northerly winds today at 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s) becoming northeasterly tonight and easterly tomorrow through Thursday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for October 18, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 30, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)

